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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph at page 5, lines 23-36 as follows:

C) Defibration and refining of the impregnated fiber material is carried out under optimized conditions. The fiber material is preferably preheated prior to feeding into the pressurized primary refiner, to allow for thermal softening of the fiber wall. The pulping conditions can comprise a refiner rotation speed of 1000 to 3000 rpm, preferably 1500 to 2600 rpm, using either conventional TMP or high refining intensity. Conventional TMP conditions may comprise preheating at 0 and up to 4 or 5 bar with a retention time of 2-10 min in the preheater and a refiner rotation speed of 1200 to 1800 rpm. The pressure 0 bar means atmospheric refining. High intensity conditions may comprise preheating at above 4 or 5 bar and up to 8 bar with a retention time of 3 to 30 sec and a refiner rotation speed above 2000 rpm but usually not above 3000 rpm. The retention time should be matched against the preheating temperature (steam pressure) as high preheating temperature requires shorter retention time. After the primary refining, a secondary refining stage can be used to reach the required pulp freeness. The ~~second~~ secondary refining stage may have the same conditions as the primary stage.